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DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS AND MINING

March 20, 2001

Utah Coal Regulatory Program  
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining  
1594 North Temple, Suite 1210  
Box 145801  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

Attention: Pam Grubaugh-Littig  
Permit Supervisor

Re: Abandonment of Mine Extension Material, PacifiCorp, Cottonwood/Wilberg Mine,  
C/015/019, Trail Mountain Mine C/015/009, Emery County, Utah

PacifiCorp, by and through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Energy West Mining Company ("Energy West") as mine operator, herewith submits a response to the Division concerning abandonment of mine extension material within the Cottonwood/Wilberg and Trail Mountain mines. PacifiCorp, on February 6, 2001 submitted to the Bureau of Land Management a "Notice of Temporary Cessation of Operations for the Trail Mountain, Cottonwood, and Wilberg Mines"; Emery County, Utah [Federal Leases: UTU-64375, U-49332, U-082996, U-083066, U-040151, U-1358, SL-064900, U-044025, U-02292].

With the scheduled completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> Right longwall panel at the Trail Mountain Mine in early March / 2001, Energy West Mining Company plans to begin mine recovery and temporary portal sealing operations. Preliminary time frame of project completion dates are as follows:

PHASE #1, Trail Mountain Mine, May 2001

PHASE #2, Cottonwood Mine, June 2001

PHASE #3, Wilberg Mine, July 2001

Mine recovery will include, but not be limited to, removal of equipment and materials from the underground workings with the following exceptions: Installed primary and secondary roof and rib support materials; general miscellaneous mine supplies and/or hardware items, some sections of in-place water supply and de-watering pipe, some sections of in-place high-voltage electrical distribution cable and monitoring cable, some sections of in-place mainline conveyor structure and conveyor belting (refer to attached itemized list). The material and equipment items identified for in-place abandonment have minimal commercial value due to present service condition and are evaluated to not be reasonable or economical to recover. The decision to abandon materials in-place is made with full consideration to the absence of any short term or long term effect to present and/or future underground or surface resources and/or operations.

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Trail Mountain Mine:

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*Not Submitted w/c/c/2*

*Meaning*  
*2/015/009*

*Copy 2/015/019*  
*Copy Mary Anne, Dana, Pam,*  
*FAX PFD.*

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Prior to final mine sealing, a joint environmental audit of all active underground workings will be conducted by Energy West [and applicable governmental agencies] to verify and document the type, amount and location of all remaining in-place abandoned materials.

The temporary sealing of underground openings will be scheduled in conjunction with completion of the underground mine recovery projects and will include all active underground to surface entries and/or portal openings. Seals will be constructed in accordance with the approved MSHA mine ventilation plan and 30 CFR Part 75.335. In addition to underground seals, each portal opening at the surface will be protected by a fence barricade and properly posted with signs to prevent access and to identify the hazardous nature of the opening.

**Attached, please find a mine map outlining site specific areas of proposed seals as well as areas of proposed abandonment of in-place conveyor structure and / or conveyor belting.**

As has been stated in all approved Resource Recovery and Protection Plans (R2P2's) for the Cottonwood and Trail Mountain Mines, a protective access corridor will be left [via leaving protective solid coal barrier pillars] between the Cottonwood Mine 4<sup>th</sup> East belt portal, to and inclusive of the Trail Mountain Mine 3<sup>rd</sup> West Mains. This protective corridor is provided to insure long term future access to the proposed Cottonwood Canyon Lease Tract reserves, north and west of the existing Trail Mountain Mine.

To comply with the Division's request, PacifiCorp has provided the following:

1. A map identifying the location of the proposed abandoned material (see attached map)
2. Description of the mine extension material (refer to attached itemized list)
3. Revision to the Probable Hydrologic Consequences section of the permit (Volume 9: Hydrologic Section) is not necessary. Structurally, the material abandoned is similar to the primary/secondary roof support systems utilized during the mining process.

Abandonment of Mine Extension Material

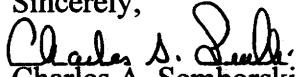
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If there are any questions or concerns please call Carl Pollastro at 687-4701 or Larry LaFrentz at 687-4726.

Sincerely,



Charles A. Semborski

Geology and Environmental Supervisor

enclosures:

cc: Carl Pollastro  
Scott Child  
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